

# WHAT'S HAPPENING WEDNESDAY

## Kansas Immunization Program

January 22, 2020

### VFC Consultant On-Call

The Consultant On-Call can be reached Monday—Friday, 8 a.m.—5 p.m. at 785-296-5592.



## CHIEF CHAT

Believe it or not, it is now time to pre-book influenza vaccine for the 2020-2021 flu season. A Special Alert went out earlier today and can be found on the Kansas Immunization Program's [Seasonal Influenza webpage](#). You will find all the information you need to know to complete the influenza pre-book process. Be sure to note that pre-book orders **must be received by noon on Friday, January 31** so that we can submit the order for the entire state to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) holds three meetings each year. These meetings are held in Atlanta, Georgia and can be attended in person with appropriate registration or via telephone or live webcast.

The next meeting will be held February 26-27. Click on the following link to get instructions for listening to or watching the meeting. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/index.html> You can also find

the draft agenda for the meeting by following the link.

Please be sure to look at page 3 for a new item in the newsletter, Staff Introductions. We plan on taking some time throughout the year to highlight Kansas Immunization Program staff, including their primary job responsibilities. It's always nice to put a name and face together. We hope you enjoy this new feature and can learn more about the great people that make up the Kansas Immunization Program.

Finally, the 2020 Kansas Immunization Conference Save the Date is on page 4. I can't believe we are talking about the conference already but it will be here before you know it.

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter and keeping up to date on the most current information from the program.

## In This Issue

### Chief Chat

Page 1

### Injection of Education

Page 2

### KSWebIZ Upgrade Staff Introductions Influenza Surveillance

Page 3

### 2020 Kansas Immunization Conference

Page 4





# INJECTION OF EDUCATION

The [2020 Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit](#) is now available. If you are familiar with the 2019 version, you will find very few changes to the 2020 version. There are three basic changes including additional information on maintenance of vaccine storage units (page 14), understanding vaccine expiration and beyond use dates (page 18), and a definition for portable vaccine storage units (page 28).

The Storage and Handling Toolkit is an invaluable resource. We strongly encourage Vaccines for Children (VFC) providers to print a copy or bookmark the page on your computer. This toolkit is the resource that is used and followed by the Kansas Immunization Program (KIP) as it relates to storing and managing vaccine inventory, transporting vaccines, and emergency vaccine storage to name just a few topics.

For example, you may know that documentation related to the VFC program must be kept for a minimum of three years, including the manual temperature logs. Did you know you should also be keeping an electronic copy of the KIP-supplied .txt and .pdf data logger files monthly? Electronic copies need to be kept either in a file on a computer or in an electronic shared file or drive for a minimum of three years. You will find more information regarding data loggers and data logger data retention on page 9.

The Storage and Handling Toolkit also highlights the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations and best practices. An important best practice to review with staff can be found on page 11; storing vaccines within their original packaging with lids closed. Exposing vaccines to light can potentially reduce potency. Vaccine vials and syringes in open bins can also increase the risk of vaccine preventable errors when the wrong vaccine is selected. Keeping vaccines within the original packaging offers staff an additional chance to double check that the correct vaccine is being selected.

As you begin the 2020 new year, what better time to review the Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit to assess vaccine storage and handling, and emergency processes.

To access the 2020 Storage and Handling Toolkit, click on the following link:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/toolkit/storage-handling-toolkit-2020.pdf>



# KSWebIZ Upgrade

Another reminder: KSWebIZ will be undergoing an upgrade to version 19.10 of the application. The system will be unavailable from **5 - 10 p.m. on Thursday, January 23**, while the upgrade is being performed. Any HL7 messages received during this time will be placed in a queue until the upgrade is complete and then released. A document describing the most notable new features and updates available in the application will be posted to the Reports module before the upgrade.

## Staff Introductions

We would like to take a minute to introduce our newest team member, Sandy Drapeau. Sandy is our new Data Quality Analyst who will provide support via phone and email for KSWebIZ users. Her primary duties include deduping KSWebIZ patient records and immunizations. Sandy will also be developing and documenting new guidelines and instructions for data quality. Sandy brings a tremendous amount of computer experience to the team, including but not limited to a bachelor's degree in Information Technology and a multitude of both software and internet-based programs knowledge.



## Influenza Surveillance

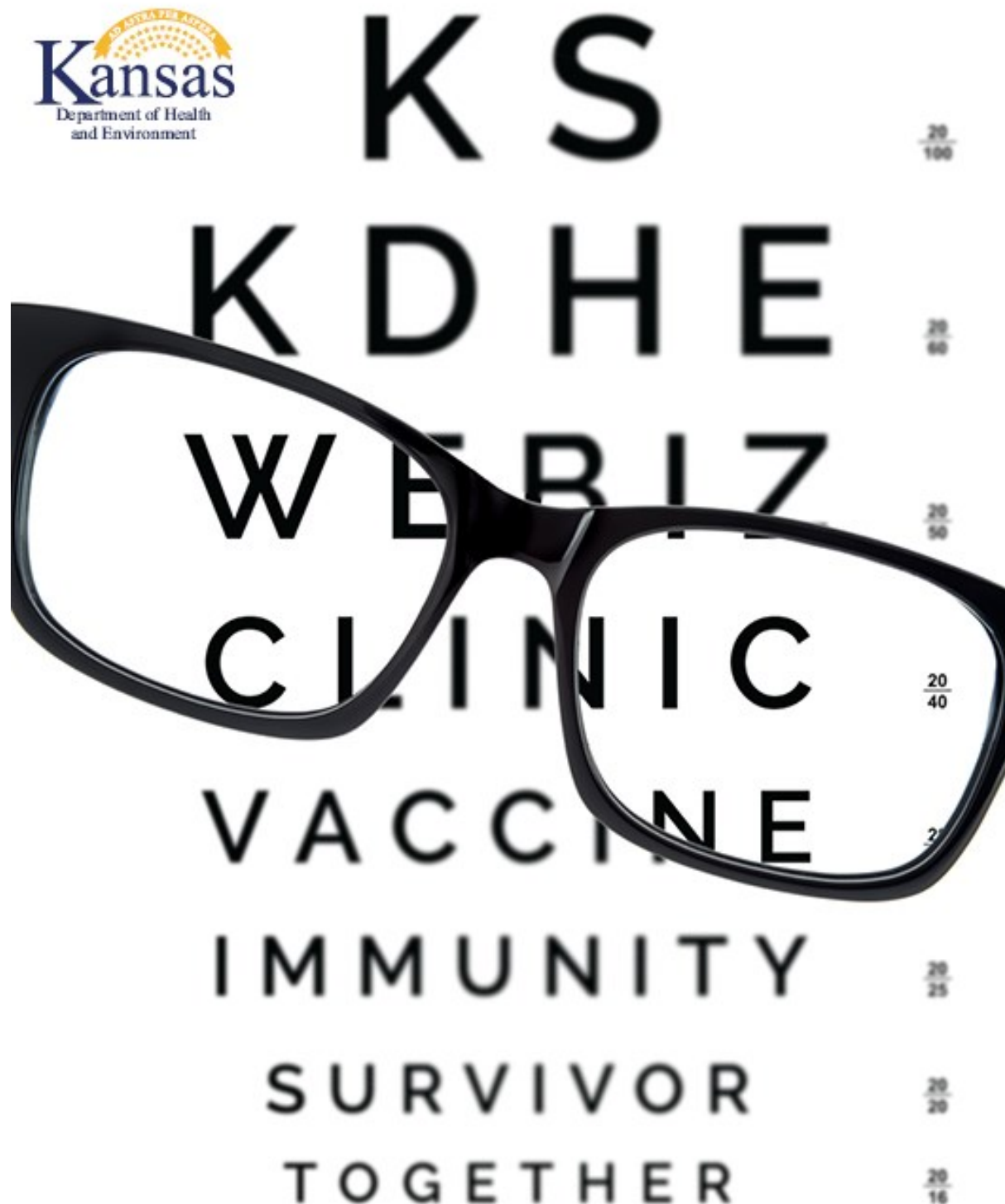


During the week ending January 11, current geographic spread in Kansas has increased to widespread.

27 of 36 (75%) Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) providers submitted data monitoring patients for influenza-like illness (ILI) of symptoms including fever ( $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) and presence of a cough and/or sore throat. Among ILINet providers, 6.2% of all outpatient visits were for ILI a slight decrease from the previous weeks.

Of the laboratory confirmed influenza specimens tested through Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories (KHEL), activity has predominantly remained subtype A/H1.

# 2020 Kansas Immunization Conference



2020 KANSAS IMMUNIZATION CONFERENCE

## **WITNESSING THE IMPACT OF VACCINES WITH 2020 VISION**

**JUNE 8-11, 2020**

Tony's Pizza Event Center | 800 The Midway | Salina, Kansas

For more information: Contact KU Area Health Education Center at (620) 235-4040. Brochure to follow.